

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Joyce at the interview held September 10, 2003 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

As agreed during the personal interview, neither Tuneblom nor Niklewski, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a vibrating aggregate comprising *inter alia* a shaft including a rigid central portion and, at each end thereof, a shaft section mounted by a bearing structure consisting essentially of one bearing for each shaft section, as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks in this Amendment and the September 2, 2003 Amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 15, 2003

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